

## Thoughts by Sally and Tom

Eunice was born at a ranch southwest of Casper, Wyoming on March 28, 1918. She was the youngest of nine children of Allen Bert and Serinda Jane Compton. She shared several memories growing up on different homesteads with her family. Going to town to live in the winter to attend school and then her high school years in Ten Sleep where she lived with her oldest brother, Frank, and his wife, Babe, and their son, Con, whom she thought of more like a little brother. During this time she met Donald Patras, when he was on his way to pay a fine for having a still. Apparently he had a small still during prohibition, which made enough alcohol that he was able to share it with friends at the dances at the old Princess in Ten Sleep. Apparently his brew was somewhat better, or felt to be competition to some other individual in the town, because they reported him to the "revenuers" who made the long trip to his homestead to destroy his small still. Anyway ... Eunice met Don when he was on his way to pay the fine. They fell in love and were secretly married in Thermopolis, WY, on May 26, 1936. The secret didn't last too long and mother did not finish her high school year. After some years of marriage they had their first son, Warren Bryant Patras. They lived on their farm outside Ten Sleep at the time. A nephew came to live with them and helped on the farm, Lester Patras, who was always thought of as their son whom they loved. Eunice and Don moved to Bremerton, WA in 1944 so Don could work in the shipyards during the war effort. By then they had an additional two daughters, Carol, "Callie"; and Zelda "Beanie". They spent part of the war years in Washington and then returned to Ten Sleep in 1945. In 1951 another son, Thomas "Tom" was born. Zelda who was six, died of rheumatic fever, and Sally was born the following year, in 1953. Eunice's father, Bert, suffered a stroke and died in 1955. Serinda Compton, Eunice's mother died in 1958, three years later. Don died January 1, 1962. Eunice was able to sustain the enormous losses with her faith in God. She took care of the two younger children and continued to carry the mail up the Nowood, as a contract mail carrier. She drove a little four-wheel drive Willy's Jeep for the approx. 80 mile route that had, at that time very little black top. She always felt she was blessed by living in Ten Sleep. The neighbors and friends that she had, provided her the support she needed to sustain and maintain her life. She often was called upon to help others. I think in part due to her understanding of suffering because of her own experiences. She loved her children and provided for them as best she could.

She was a very talented lady, who didn't really let her talents shine or make a big deal out of them. She was a seamstress who could simply look at a dress then make up a pattern and sew the dress. She could alter any type of clothing. She knew how to quilt and was taught by her mother, also a seamstress, that you didn't quilt with stitches that "would catch a toenail" in them. She loved to crochet and garden. She loved to read; she enjoyed her education and often recited the poetry that she learned. She knew Latin, and could tell you the meaning of the words based on their Latin origin. But her greatest talent was her training her children to love the Lord and Trust in Him. She joined Don's Church and enjoyed the fellowship of fellow Christians no matter what their denomination.

She married Howard Allred in August of 1971. He had four children, Sherman, Bob, Tom and LeAnn. The families had known each other for years. Howard's wife Shirley had died the year before Don died. Shirley and mom were very close friends. Howard and Eunice enjoyed their years together. They shared common interests and were good companions. Howard died in 1975.

Time moved on and her children had children and their children had children. She delighted in her grandchildren and their successes. She always wished that had had twins, until last summer when she spent the time with her granddaughter Amber's set of twins. She continued to shake her head and say, "Now I know why God never gave me twins, I always wondered and regretted not having them, but now I know why I never had them. I simply would not have had the energy.

Later in life, she cared for people in their own homes, and really enjoyed cooking at the Anderson Ranch east of Ten Sleep during lambing for many years.

Eunice had a strong faith, which she passed on to her family and in this celebration of her life; all of us want to acknowledge how that gift has affected our lives and those of our children. She was a simple individual, often very poor, not educated by the world's standards, but touched other's lives in many ways.

***“Sometimes the poorest woman leaves her children the richest inheritance”*** Ruth Renkel

*I appreciate the many prayers you whispered during the worst moments in my life, and the many hopes for my success in all that I dreamed of.*

*I appreciate the kind wishes that would make me so happy and fulfilled, and the gentle words of encouragement that were meant to strengthen my quests.*

*I appreciate the moments of sorrow you experienced during my failures and the little gestures of kindness that always made me feel better.*

*I appreciate your acceptance, your ability to understand, and the love that always gave me such security.*

*I appreciate the wisdom of all the lessons you taught, and the faith that you passed on.*

*I appreciate all you’ve done, every word and gesture. I know that you were the best mother you could be to me. For all you did, for all you were.*

*I love you and will carry you forever in my heart.*

***“Once upon a memory someone wiped away a tear, held me close and loved me,  
Thank you mother, dear.”*** *Unknown*

Northern Wyoming Daily News bituary (Worland, WY)

TEN SLEEP - Eunice Ann Allred, 88, of Ten Sleep, died on Jan. 31, 2007 at Worland Healthcare & Rehab Center.

She was born on March 28, 1918 on a ranch southwest of Casper to Allen Bert and Serinda Jane (Routon) Compton. She lived at Casper until age 6, and then moved with her family to Huntsville, Ark. After 3 years her family moved back to Casper, and then to Ten Sleep, where she attended high school.

She married Donald Ivan Patras on May 26, 1936 at Thermopolis. The couple lived in Ten Sleep until 1944 when they moved to Bremerton, Wash., where he worked in the shipyards during World War II. In late 1945 they moved back to Ten Sleep. Her husband Don died in 1962. On Aug. 24, 1971 she married Howard Z. Allred at Cody. Howard died in 1975.

Eunice worked as a Star Route mail carrier for many years at Ten Sleep. She later became a home care provider for numerous people in the Worland and Ten Sleep area, and had also been a cook for the Anderson Ranch east of Ten Sleep during lambing for many years.

She enjoyed crocheting, knitting, sewing, gardening, raising houseplants, and cooking. She also was a collector of antiques.

Eunice was a member of the Community of Christ Church (RLDS).

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husbands, an infant daughter Zelda Dean Patras, a grandson Thomas Patras, and by six brothers and one sister.

Eunice is survived by her sons Warren Byant Patras of Ten Sleep and Thomas (Cindi) Patras of Cheyenne; daughters Carolyn (Alvin) Nelson of Cheyenne and Sally (Robert) Maurer of Pottstown, Pa.; her sister Marguerite Packer of Worland; and by nine grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren; her stepchildren Sherman (Becky) Allred of

Basin, Robert (Cora) Allred of Buffalo, Tom (Deanna) Allred of Worland, and Le Ann (Carl) Foggin of Shepherd, Mont.

A family viewing will take place during the weekend, followed by cremation. A graveside memorial service will take place at the Ten Sleep Cemetery this coming summer.

Veile Mortuary of Worland assisted the family with the arrangements.